



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

[Click Here to go to the Virginia Department for the Aging Home Page](#)

TABLE OF CONTENTS AAA TUESDAY E-MAILING March 15, 2005

SUBJECT	VDA ID NUMBER
<u>Public Health Week to Focus on Aging</u> (Bill Peterson)	05-86
<u>Kinship Care 2005 Virginia General Assembly Bills of Interest</u> (Ellen Nau)	05-87
<u>Senator Smith Plans Floor Amendment to Defeat Medicaid Budget Cuts</u> (Bill Peterson)	05-88
<u>Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Program Reporting Update</u> (Tim Catherman)	05-89
<u>Nominations from the Aging Network Needed for the VAIRS Board of Directors</u> (Faye Cates)	05-90

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Jay W. DeBoer, J.D., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: AAA Directors

FROM: Bill Peterson

DATE: March 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Public Health Week to Focus on Aging

The Administration on Aging has joined with the American Public Health Association (APHA) as a partner in **National Public Health Week (NPHW): April 4 – 10, 2005**. We invite and encourage members of the national aging services network to promote the week as a way to reach older adults and family caregivers about opportunities to take the preventive actions necessary to keep aging Americans strong and healthy throughout their later years.

NPHW 2005 is dedicated to empowering Americans to live stronger, longer. During the week, APHA and its partners will promote the three Ps for adding more healthy years to life: Preventing health problems by practicing healthy living, Protecting your health through early detection and screening, and developing a Plan to manage your health that will promote a high quality of life in later years.

The materials for NPHW 2005 are now available at <http://www.nphw.org/>. APHA now has more than 160 partners and 6 sponsors. As a grassroots campaign, APHA invites you to join National Public Health Week as a state, local, or national Partner.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Ellen M. Nau

DATE: March 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Kinship Care 2005 Virginia General Assembly Bills of Interest

HB 1687 Birth Records; access by grandparents

Summary as passed House: [\(all summaries\)](#)

Vital records; grandchild's birth certificate. Requires the State Registrar or the city or county registrar to disclose data about or issue a certified copy of a birth certificate of a child to the grandparent of the child upon the written request of the grandparent when the grandparent has demonstrated to the State Registrar evidence of need, as prescribed by Board regulation, for the data or birth certificate.

HB 2564 Sexual Offenses: increase in penalty when against children by a parent or grandparent.

Summary as passed: [\(all summaries\)](#)

Sexual offenses against children by a parent or grandparent; penalty. Provides that sexual abuse of a child age 13-17 by a parent, step-parent, grandparent or step-grandparent is aggravated sexual battery, which is punishable by a term of imprisonment of one to 20 years. The bill provides that for purposes of the crimes against nature statute, parent includes step-parent and grandparent includes step-grandparent. The bill raises the age in the indecent liberties section from age 14 to age 15 and provides that violation of that section and certain violations of taking indecent liberties with a child by a person in a custodial or supervisory relationship, if the child aged 15 to 17 and is a child, step-child, grandchild or step-grandchild of the perpetrator, is a Class 5 felony. If the child is less than 15 years of age it is a Class 4 felony. The bill amends the taking indecent liberties with child by a person in custodial or supervisory relationship to state that it does not apply if the child is emancipated or if the perpetrator is legally married to the child.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: AAA Directors
FROM: Bill Peterson
DATE: March 15, 2005
SUBJECT: Senator Smith Plans Floor Amendment to Defeat Medicaid Budget Cuts

Please consider calling your United States Senator! You can call toll-free at 1-800-828-0498. Virginia's Senators are George Allen and John Warner. Please tell them:

- 1) Vote **YES** on the Smith-Bingaman amendment to strike the Medicaid cuts; and
- 2) Medicaid must not be cut because it provides essential coverage for health and long term care for frail elderly and disabled Americans.

Senator Gordon Smith (R-OR) has announced his intention to offer a floor amendment to restore Medicaid funding that was cut in the budget passed by a key Senate committee today. In place of the cuts, Smith will seek the creation of a bipartisan commission to conduct a comprehensive review to determine how to improve service delivery and quality in the most cost-effective way possible under Medicaid.

The Senate Budget Committee today passed the Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Resolution including a call for \$15 billion in Medicaid cuts over five years. The savings are intended to be found by combating waste and abuse in the system. "There may well be places where we can save money in Medicaid," Smith said. "But I am opposed to blindly cutting the program when we have a real opportunity to improve it." Smith introduced the **Bipartisan Commission on Medicaid Act (S. 338)** after the president's budget proposed over \$60 billion in cuts to the program over ten years.

The proposed Medicaid Commission will be charged with a number of duties, including reviewing and making recommendations with respect to the long-term goals, populations served, financial sustainability, interaction with Medicare and safety-net providers, and the quality of care provided. The Commission will have one year to hold

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Page 2 of 2

public hearings, conduct its evaluations and deliberations, and issue its report and recommendations to the president, the Congress, and the public. “We shouldn’t risk the health of millions for the sake of expediency,” Smith said. “A short delay will allow a full study and ensure that any changes improve Medicaid’s sustainability while maintaining access to care.” S. 338 is cosponsored by 28 senators and supported by a diverse group of advocates including: the National Conference of State Legislatures, National Association of Community Health Centers, American Hospital Association, Families USA, National Association of Counties, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and the AIDS Institute.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Tim M. Catherman
Deputy Commissioner, Support Services

DATE: March 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Program Reporting Update

The Administration on Aging in the NAPIS – State Program Report wants to capture “Caregivers Benefited” with Title III-E National Family Caregiver Support Program funds. This is a change from traditional reporting. In traditional reporting units are associated with individuals receiving the service. Although this information is important for the AAA, AoA is more concerned about the number of caregivers benefited.

The unduplicated number of Caregivers Benefited is the total number of caregivers benefited whether the caregiver directly received the service or the care recipient directly received the service. The number of Caregivers Benefited should be equal to or greater than the number of Actual Caregivers Served.

Jane Snead has revised the AMR to capture this information and it is available on the VDA website. The National Family Caregiver Support Program Guidance on the VDA website has been updated to reflect this reporting change. This guidance may be found at: <http://www.vda.virginia.gov/serviceprograms/additionalguidance.htm>

Leonard Eshmont has developed three AIM reports that should be used to enter “Caregivers Benefited” on the AMR. **Because of this change, it is more important than ever to be current in entering AIM client data. It is recommended that AIM client data be entered no later than the 12th of the following month to produce accurate reports.**

VA36 Report "Title III-E Program Group Listing" has a new column "Caregivers Benefited". If the client receives the service and there is not a link to the caregiver in AIM there will be no way to make this calculation 100% accurate. In other words, "Caregiver Benefited" will be under reported! Please make sure all clients that have a caregiver are linked in AIM! This new column has also been added to the AMR on the "Title III-E" and "Title III-E Grandparents" worksheets. The "AIM Data" worksheet will not be affected by this change. Please review the notes at the bottom of this report as it refers you to the other new VA reports (VA34, VA35, VA37, VA38, VA39) that identify the individuals that make up the column summary numbers found on a program group service line.

VA31 Report "Master Client Reference With Caregivers Linked" – This report lists clients when they are linked to at least one caregiver. It sorts clients by last name when a caregiver is linked.

VA32 Report "Master Caregiver Reference With Clients Linked" – This report lists the caregivers when they are linked to a client. It sorts caregivers by last name when a client is linked. It is the flipside of VA31 report.

If you have any questions about AMR reporting contact Jane Snead at (804) 662-9329 or questions about AIM reporting contact Leonard Eshmont at (804) 662-9800. If you have programmatic issues about the National Family Caregiver Support Program call Ellen Nau at (804) 662-9340.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Directors - Area Agencies on Aging
Aging Information and Referral Specialists

FROM: Faye D. Cates, MSSW, Human Services Program Coordinator

DATE: March 15, 2005

**SUBJECT: NOMINATIONS FROM THE AGING NETWORK NEEDED FOR THE
VAIRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Virginia Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (VAIRS) is seeking nominations to their Board of Directors for the term, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2007.

What is VAIRS? It is a statewide association of organizations, agencies and individuals committed to ensuring that all Virginians have access to quality health and human service information. VAIRS is an affiliate of AIRS, the international Alliance of Information and Referral Systems.

The VAIRS Bylaws call for a Board of 12-21 members. It is seeking 3 - 7 new members in addition to current members. Currently I am the only representative from Virginia's Aging Network, and I serve as Vice President. So we need to provide additional aging representation on the Board.

Requirements are:

- Member of VAIRS (individual or organization);
- Willing to travel to 2 - 3 meetings per year (2-3 hours each);
- Participate in 2-3 conference calls per year; and
- Serve on at least one committee (Training and Education, Nominating, Membership and Communications Committees).

Nominations from the Aging Network Needed for the VAIRS Board of Directors
Page 2 of 2

By **March 31, 2005**, please send your nomination(s) to me, and a couple of sentences explaining their experience in information and referral (I&R) services. I welcome nominations from those AAAs that have a strong emphasis in I&R, particularly those of you who have staff devoted entirely to I&R.

New Board members will be presented at the Annual VAIRS Conference in Richmond on April 21, 2005. Information about that conference was provided via the February 15, 2005, Tuesday Mailing # 05-67. Conference registration information is on the VAIRS web site, <http://www.vairs.org/conference.htm>. I look forward to receiving your nominations, so aging will have a stronger presence on the VAIRS Board.

Note: As of June 14, 2004, the AAAs have 16 "AIRS certified" generic and/or aging I&R specialists. Please let me know if you have staff that pass the AIRS I&R certification exam at the April 21, 2005 conference, so I can add them/your agency to my tracking list. Thank you.